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Co-owner of Sawstone Brewery, Derek Caskey, discusses many of the brewery's options with customers.

PHOTO BY CELENE DORSEY | TRAILBLAZER

## New brewhouse highlights downtown

BY BRAD STACY  
THE MOREHEAD NEWS

From brewing beers in their driveway to opening one of the more anticipated additions to downtown Morehead, three life-long friends have opened the city's first brewhouse.

Morehead natives Derek Caskey, Nick Hollan, and Blake Nickell are the founders and

owners of Sawstone Brewing Co., located in the former "Cozy Building" on the corner of Main Street and Battson-Oates Drive.

The trio have hosted several soft openings in early August to give the community a sample of the brews they offer, which include but are not limited to local, Kentucky-made and in-house brews.

SEE BREWERY | A10

## Blue Sky opens as community's first women's treatment center

BY BRAD STACY  
THE MOREHEAD NEWS

Nearly 200 people gathered at the new Blue Sky Recovery Center last week to officially cut the ribbon on Rowan County's only addiction recovery center designed for women.

Formerly the Sunrise Children's Services building on Cranston Road, employees, clients, and local government officials gathered in celebration of a much-needed addition to the community, according to the center's director Cassie Jones.

"Hearing laughter in the house for the first time and reuniting kids with their families is what drives the Blue Sky Recovery Center," Jones said. "If you've worked in this field you know what it's like to hear a recovering addict get their laugh back. It's something special."

The 16-bed facility is meant to be the first stop for women going into the recovery program.

The house has been open for 30 days but Jones considered the ribbon cutting last Wednesday as their official grand opening.

"As a city, as a mother, as an elected official," said Morehead Mayor Laura White-Brown. "We thank all of you for the work you do to improve our community every day. This is going to impact so many people coming in and out of these doors and we appreciate you all so much."

Jones said clients will be given the opportunity to clear their head in a more se-



John David Elam, creator of The Blue Sky Recovery Center, is recognized by Rep. Rocky Adkins after speaking to the crowd during the center's grand opening on Cranston Road last Wednesday.

BRAD STACY | THE MOREHEAD NEWS

cluded location with staff to help guide them through self-love before going into the community.

"When they come in a lot of them are still withdrawing," she said. "They are here to stabilize, and get back to loving themselves so they can then eventually get back into the community and love and appreciate their families again."

After a successful stint in the phase one location, the women will move to the phase two facility in downtown Morehead so they can start being more involved in the community.

"This is the only way that we are going to solve the opi-

oid crisis," said Ashley Adkins, assistant Rowan County Attorney.

Adkins was noted by Edgewater Recovery Center director Jason Jones as being a vital asset to the county's war on drugs, helping implement many Casey's Law cases to help people get the addiction help they need.

"We have to fight it person by person, day by day, step by step," she said.

The Blue Sky Recovery Center began through the vision of John David Elam and his wife, Myra.

Elam asked Jason to help with the new facility. Orig-

SEE CENTER | A10

## Poised for a strong year at Morehead State

BY GLENN PUIT  
CNHI KENTUCKY

Morehead State University is certainly an important institution in Eastern Kentucky. It offers a high-quality education to its students, many hailing from rural communities with limited job prospects.

This past week, Morehead State University President Dr. Jay Morgan said the university finds itself in a strong position both in enrollment and in carrying out its long-term strategic plan. This is the case despite seemingly relentless cuts in state funding.

SEE MSU | A10

## WWI saddle gifted to veterans museum

BY BRAD STACY  
THE MOREHEAD NEWS

The Rowan County Veterans Museum received an unusual and unique donation in June.

Sisters Joy, Cindy and Diane James donated a saddle passed to them from their step grandfather, Charles B. Proctor.

They advised that the saddle had belonged to Ezra Proctor who served in WWI.

As luck would happen for the museum, Rick Waltz was delivering items to the museum on the same day and observed the aging piece of history. Waltz proceeded to give the curator a

history of the saddle. Waltz actually restores historical saddles and described it as a 1904 McClellan Cavalry Saddle.



Scott Barker with the Rowan County Veterans Foundation accepts a unique, restored saddle from local craftsman Rick Waltz.

Waltz agreed to restore the saddle for presentation in the museum.

This past week he delivered the saddle back to the museum in a restored condition for display.

Research by the museum curator found that the saddle owner was William Ezra Proctor, who served in WWI in 1918.

Records reflect that he was a Captain in the 38th Division, 75th Infantry Brigade, 149th Infantry, Company B. Captain Proctor passed in 1966 and is

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